12-12020-mg Doc 5838 Filed 11/18/13 Entered 11/18/13 17:32:44 Main Document

Pg 1 of 25

Hearing Date: December 17, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. (ET)
Objection Deadline: December 9, 2013, at 4:00 p.m. (ET)

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP

1819 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue North

Birmingham, Alabama 35203

Phone: (205) 521-8000 Fax: (205) 521-8800 Robert W. Maddox, Esq. Jay R. Bender, Esq.

Special Litigation and Compliance Counsel for the Debtors

UNITED	STATE	S BANI	KRUPT	TCY (	COURT
SOUTH	ERN DIS	TRICT	OF N	EW Y	ORK

	)	
In re:	)	Case No. 12-12020 (MG)
	)	
RESIDENTIAL CAPITAL, LLC, et al.,	)	Chapter 11
, , <del></del> ,	)	1
Debtors.	)	Jointly Administered
	)	•

## SUMMARY OF FOURTH INTERIM APPLICATION OF BRADLEY ARANT BOULT CUMMINGS LLP AS SPECIAL LITIGATION AND COMPLIANCE COUNSEL FOR THE DEBTORS FOR COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES INCURRED FOR THE PERIOD MAY 1, 2013, THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2013

This is a(n): monthly	X interim final application.
Name of Applicant:	Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP (the "Applicant")
Authorized to Provide Professional Services to:	Residential Capital, LLC, <i>et al.</i> (collectively, the " <b>Debtors</b> ")
Date of Retention:	Order entered on August 20, 2012 retaining Applicant <i>nunc pro tunc</i> to May 14, 2012 [Dkt No. 1221]
Period for which Compensation and Reimbursement is sought:	May 1, 2013 through August 31, 2013 (the "Application Period")

Fees/ Expenses Previously Approved: Fees of \$4,060,788.24 and expenses of

\$148,999.34 were approved by Order of this Court entered on December 28, 2012 [Dkt.

No. 2530]

Fees of \$4,189,034.16 and expenses of \$221,385.66 were approved by Order of this Court entered on April 29, 2013 [Dkt. No.

3556]

Fees of \$2,412,909.93 and expenses of \$141,270.88 were approved by Order of this Court entered on September 25, 2013 [Dkt.

No. 5205]

Total Fees Approved to Date: \$10,662,732.33

Total Expenses Approved to Date:

\$511,655.88

Previously Approved Fees that Have

Been Paid / Remain Unpaid:

\$9,173,849.50 paid / \$1,488,882.83 unpaid

Previously Approved Expenses that Have

Been Paid / Remain Unpaid:

\$440,211.19 paid / \$71,444.69 unpaid

Amount of Compensation Sought Herein

as Actual, Reasonable and Necessary:

\$724,297.96

Amount of Expense Reimbursement Sought Herein as Actual, Reasonable and

Necessary:

\$71,408.27

Names, Billing Rates, and Bar Admission

Dates, as applicable, for All Timekeepers:

See Exhibit D to Application

Total Hours Billed and Total Amount of Billing

Per Timekeeper:

See Exhibit D to Application

Blended Hourly Rates for Attorneys for

**Application Period:** 

\$286.00

12-12020-mg Doc 5838 Filed 11/18/13 Entered 11/18/13 17:32:44 Main Document Pg 3 of 25

## **Summary of Monthly Applications for Application Period:**

Date of Monthly Request	Compensation Period	Initial Fees Requested	Initial Expenses Requested	Fees Paid to Date	Expenses Paid to Date	20% Holdback
8/29/2013	5/1/2013 to 6/30/2013	\$361,642.93	\$30,705.72	\$0	\$0	\$72,328.50
10/15/2013	7/1/2013 to 8/31/2013 <sup>1</sup>	\$362,655.03	\$40,702.55	\$0	\$0	\$72,531.01
TOTAL		\$724,297.96	\$71,408.27	\$0	\$0	\$144,859.60

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> To reduce substantially the volume of supporting documents in support of the Applicant's monthly applications, and to simplify the Applicant's preparation and the other parties' review of these monthly applications, the Applicant, with the advance consent of the U.S. Trustee and the Debtors and advance notice to the Committee, consolidated its monthly applications for May and June and for July and August into one submission.

12-12020-mg Doc 5838 Filed 11/18/13 Entered 11/18/13 17:32:44 Main Document

Pg 4 of 25

Hearing Date: December 17, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. (ET)
Objection Deadline: December 9, 2013, at 4:00 p.m. (ET)

## UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

	)	
In re:	)	Case No. 12-12020 (MG)
	)	
RESIDENTIAL CAPITAL, LLC, et al.,	)	Chapter 11
	)	-
Debtors.	)	Jointly Administered
	)	•

# FOURTH INTERIM APPLICATION OF BRADLEY ARANT BOULT CUMMINGS LLP AS SPECIAL LITIGATION AND COMPLIANCE COUNSEL FOR THE DEBTORS FOR COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES INCURRED FOR THE PERIOD MAY 1, 2013 THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2013

For its fourth interim application for compensation and reimbursement of expenses (the "Application") for the period May 1, 2013 through August 31, 2013 (the "Application Period"), Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP (the "Applicant"), special litigation and compliance counsel to Residential Capital, LLC., *et al.*, as debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "Debtors"), respectfully represents as follows:

## JURISDICTION, VENUE AND STATUTORY PREDICATES

- 1. This Court has jurisdiction over this Application pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334. This matter is a core proceeding within the meaning of 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2). Venue of this proceeding and this Application in this District is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.
- 2. The statutory bases for the relief requested herein are sections 328, 330, and 331, of title 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code"), Rule 2016 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the "Bankruptcy Rules"), and Rule 2016-1 of the Local Rules for the

United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York (the "Local Rules"). This Application has been prepared in accordance with General Order M-447, Amended Guidelines for Fees and Disbursements for Professionals in Southern District of New York Bankruptcy Cases, entered January 29, 2013 (the "Local Guidelines"), and the United States Trustee Guidelines for Reviewing Applications for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses Filed Under 11 U.S.C. § 330 effective January 30, 1996 (the "UST Guidelines" and, together with the Local Guidelines, the "Guidelines"). Pursuant to the Local Guidelines, a certification regarding compliance with the Local Guidelines is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

#### **BACKGROUND**

### A. The Chapter 11 Cases

- 3. On May 14, 2012 (the "**Petition Date**"), each of the Debtors filed a voluntary petition in this Court for relief under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtors are managing and operating their businesses as debtors in possession pursuant to Bankruptcy Code sections 1107(a) and 1108. These cases are being jointly administered pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 1015(b). No trustee has been appointed in these Chapter 11 cases.
- 4. On May 16, 2012, the United States Trustee for the Southern District of New York (the "U.S. Trustee") appointed an official committee of unsecured creditors (the "Creditors' Committee").
- 5. On June 20, 2012, the Court directed that an examiner be appointed, and on July 3, 2012, the Court approved Arthur J. Gonzalez as the examiner [Dkt. Nos. 454, 674].
- 6. On July 3, 2013, the Debtors filed the *Joint Chapter 11 Plan Proposed by Residential Capital, LLC, at al. and the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors* [Dkt. No. 4153] and the proposed *Disclosure Statement for the Joint Chapter 11 Plan Proposed by*

12-12020-mg Doc 5838 Filed 11/18/13 Entered 11/18/13 17:32:44 Main Document Pa 6 of 25

Residential Capital, LLC, at al. and the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors [Dkt. No. 4157].

#### B. Applicant's Retention and Interim Compensation

- 7. On July 9, 2012, the Debtors filed their application under sections 327(e) and 328 of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rule 2014(a) and Local Rule 2014-1 for authorization to employ Applicant as special litigation and compliance counsel to the Debtors and to approve the Debtors' alternative billing arrangement with the Applicant [Dkt. No. 721] (the "Retention **Application**"). With the Retention Application, the Debtors filed the Declaration of Robert R. Maddox, a partner of Applicant, in support of the Retention Application (the "Initial **Supporting Declaration**"). The Debtors subsequently filed the Supplemental Declaration of Mr. Maddox in support of the Retention Application (the "First Supplemental Declaration") [Dkt. No. 866], the Second Supplemental Declaration of Mr. Maddox in support of the Retention Application (the "Second Supplemental Declaration") [Dkt. No. 1008], and the Third Supplemental Declaration of Mr. Maddox in support of the Retention Application [Dkt. No. 3144] (the "Third Supplemental Declaration"), on July 21, 2012, August 6, 2012, and March 12, 2013, respectively. The Initial Supporting Declaration, the First Supplemental Declaration, the Second Supplemental Declaration, and the Third Supplemental Declaration shall be referred to hereinafter collectively as the "Supporting Declaration").
- 8. On August 9, 2012, the Court held a duly-noticed hearing on the Retention Application. On August 10, 2012, the Court issued its Memorandum Opinion [Dkt. No. 1077] approving the Retention Application and overruling certain limited objections thereto. On August 20, 2012, the Court entered that certain Order Under Sections 327(e) and 328 of the Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Rule 2014(a) and Local Rule 2014-1 Authorizing (I) the

12-12020-mg Doc 5838 Filed 11/18/13 Entered 11/18/13 17:32:44 Main Document Pg 7 of 25

Employment and Retention of Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP as Special Litigation and Compliance Counsel to the Debtors, *Nunc Pro Tunc* to May 14, 2012, and (II) Approving the Alternative Billing Arrangement [Dkt. No. 1221] (the "**Retention Order**"),<sup>2</sup> approving Applicant's employment pursuant to the Retention Application. Among other things, the Retention Order approved the Alternative Billing Arrangement (as such term was defined in the Retention Order) negotiated among the Debtors and Applicant with respect to the Alternative Billing Arrangement Matters (as such term was defined in the Retention Order) pursuant to section 328(a) of the Bankruptcy Code.

- 9. On July 17, 2012, the Court entered the *Order Establishing Procedures for Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses of Professionals* (the "Interim Compensation Order") [Dkt. No. 797]. Pursuant to the terms of the Interim Compensation Order, Applicant, among others, is authorized to submit monthly fee applications to the Debtors and their counsel, counsel for the Creditors' Committee, counsel for Ally Financial Inc., counsel for Barclays Bank PLC, and the United States Trustee (collectively, the "Notice Parties").
- 10. On October 19, 2012, Applicant filed its First Interim Application as Special Litigation and Compliance Counsel for the Debtors for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses Incurred for the Period May 14, 2012 Through August 31, 2012 (the "First Interim Application") [Dkt. No. 1882]. In the First Interim Application, Applicant requested the approval of compensation in the amount of \$4,207,515.65 and reimbursement of expenses in the amount of \$157,682.41. In the Omnibus Objection of the United States Trustee Regarding Fee Applications for First Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses (the "First U.S.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> By order entered September 27, 2012 [Dkt. No. 1600], the Court denied the motion of Patrick J. Hopper [Dkt. No. 1351] for reconsideration of the Retention Order.

12-12020-mg Doc 5838 Filed 11/18/13 Entered 11/18/13 17:32:44 Main Document Pg 8 of 25

**Trustee Objection**") [Dkt. No. 2361], the First U.S. Trustee asserted limited objections to the First Interim Application. The First Interim Application and the U.S. Trustee Objection came before this Court for hearing on December 20, 2012. Prior to such hearing, through the Debtor's billing reconciliation process, Applicant agreed to certain adjustments to the compensation and expense reimbursement requests made in the First Interim Application. Also, prior to the hearing, Applicant and the U.S. Trustee reached an agreement resolving the First U.S. Trustee Objection as it pertained to the First Interim Application. Accordingly, on December 28, 2012, this Court entered its order [Dkt. No. 2530] allowing Applicant's fees in the reduced amount of \$4,060,788.24 and expenses in the reduced amount of \$148,999.34.

Litigation and Compliance Counsel for the Debtors for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses Incurred for the Period September 1, 2012 Through December 31, 2012 (the "Second Interim Application") [Dkt. No. 3151]. In the Second Interim Application, Applicant requested the approval of compensation in the amount of \$4,257,795.00 and reimbursement of expenses in the amount of \$227,136.00. In the Omnibus Objection of the United States Trustee Regarding Fee Applications for Second Interim Awards of Compensation and Reimbursement of Out-of-Pocket Expenses (the "Second U.S. Trustee Objection") [Dkt. No. 3310], the U.S. Trustee asserted limited objections to the Second Interim Application. The Second Interim Application and the Second U.S. Trustee Objection came before this Court for hearing on April 11, 2013. Prior to such hearing, through the Debtor's billing reconciliation process, Applicant agreed to certain adjustments to the compensation and expense reimbursement requests made in the Second Interim Application. Also, prior to the hearing, Applicant and the U.S. Trustee reached an agreement resolving the Second U.S. Trustee Objection as it pertained to the Second Interim

12-12020-mg Doc 5838 Filed 11/18/13 Entered 11/18/13 17:32:44 Main Document Pa 9 of 25

Application. Accordingly, on April 29, 2013, this Court entered its order [Dkt. No. 3556] allowing Applicant's fees in the reduced amount of \$4,189,034.16 and expenses in the reduced amount of \$221,385.66.

- Litigation and Compliance Counsel for the Debtors for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses Incurred for the Period January 1, 2013 Through April 30, 2013 (the "Third Interim Application") [Dkt. No. 4513]. In the Third Interim Application, Applicant requested the approval of compensation in the amount of \$2,416,978.11 and reimbursement of expenses in the amount of \$144,016.28. In the Omnibus Objection of the United States Trustee Regarding Fee Applications for Third Interim Awards of Compensation and Reimbursement of Out-of-Pocket Expenses (the "Third U.S. Trustee Objection") [Dkt. No. 4869], the U.S. Trustee asserted limited objections to the Third Interim Application. The Third Interim Application and the Third U.S. Trustee Objection came before this Court for hearing on September 11, 2013. Prior to such hearing, Applicant and the U.S. Trustee reached an agreement resolving the Third U.S. Trustee Objection as it pertained to the Third Interim Application. Accordingly, on September 25, 2013, this Court entered its order [Dkt. No. 5205] allowing Applicant's fees in the reduced amount of \$2,412,909.93 and expenses in the reduced amount of \$141,270.88.
- 13. On August 29, 2013, Applicant served its eleventh monthly fee application covering the period from May 1, 2013 through June 30, 2013 (the "Eleventh Monthly Fee Application") on the Notice Parties. On October 15, 2013, Applicant served its twelfth monthly fee application covering the period from July 1, 2013 through August 31, 2013 (the "Twelfth Monthly Fee Application" and, together with the Eleventh Monthly Fee Application, the "Monthly Fee Applications") on the Notice Parties. Applicant did not receive any objections to

12-12020-mg Doc 5838 Filed 11/18/13 Entered 11/18/13 17:32:44 Main Document Pa 10 of 25

the Eleventh Monthly Fee Application or the Twelfth Monthly Fee Application as of the filing of this Application. Copies of these Monthly Fee Applications (excluding the supporting invoices transmitted with them, which are omitted for the reasons set forth below) are attached hereto as Exhibit B.

- 14. For the convenience of this Court and all parties in interest, attached hereto as Exhibit C is a schedule of the total amount of fees billed by Applicant pursuant to the Monthly Fee Applications during the Application Period, organized according to the applicable project categories suggested by the U.S. Trustee in the Guidelines.
- 15. As of the filing of this Application, Applicant has not yet received any payments from the Debtors with respect to the Monthly Fee Applications.
- of the professional services required by the Debtors. These records are maintained in the ordinary course of Applicant's practice. For the convenience of this Court and all parties in interest, attached hereto as <a href="Exhibit D">Exhibit D</a> is a billing summary for the Application Period (the "Billing Summary"), setting forth the name of each attorney and paraprofessional who rendered services during the Application Period, each attorney's year of bar admission and area of practice concentration, the aggregate time expended by each attorney and each paraprofessional, the hourly billing rate for each attorney and each paraprofessional at Applicant's current billing rates, and the individual amounts requested for each professional. The hourly compensation requested by Applicant is based on the customary compensation charged by comparably skilled practitioners in other similar cases under the Bankruptcy Code. The blended hourly rate for timekeepers (other than paralegals and other paraprofessionals) who billed time during the Application Period is \$286.

12-12020-mg Doc 5838 Filed 11/18/13 Entered 11/18/13 17:32:44 Main Document Pg 11 of 25

- 17. In her responses to Applicant's prior fee applications, the U.S. Trustee has objected to the allowance of any compensation for the work performed by attorneys and paraprofessionals of Applicant who billed five hours or less on the Debtors' matters during the applicable application period. The Billing Summary reflects that certain attorneys and paraprofessionals of Applicant have billed five hours or less during the Application Period on the Debtors' matters. Based upon Applicant's review of the Billing Summary, the total hours billed by such "transitory timekeepers" during the Application Period total 45.68 hours for which Applicant requests compensation of \$11,509.59. Applicant submits that the time incurred by these "transitory timekeepers" was reasonably incurred and beneficial to the Debtors and their estates and requests that such fees be approved by the Court without reduction.
- 18. Applicant also maintains computerized records of all expenses incurred in connection with the performance of professional services. A summary of the amounts and categories of expenses for which reimbursement is sought is attached hereto as Exhibit E.
- 19. Copies of Applicant's invoices for fees and expenses were served on the Notice Parties with each of the Monthly Fee Applications. To simplify the review of the Applicant's time records for the hundreds of separate matters it handled for the Debtors during the Application Period,<sup>3</sup> Applicant has taken the invoices that were attached to the Monthly Fee Applications and re-printed them in a more condensed format compliant with the Guidelines. Applicant then organized these re-formatted invoices by client-matter, so that all the monthly

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> At the December 20, 2012 hearing on the Applicant's First Interim Application, the Court commented about the difficulty it encountered when reviewing the Applicant's voluminous time records for the hundreds of matters handled by Applicant for the Debtors. The Court asked Applicant to confer with the U.S. Trustee about how Applicant could better and more succinctly present its billing records to the Court for review. Applicant and the U.S. Trustee spoke after that hearing about changes that Applicant could make to its future fee applications to better satisfy both the requirements set forth in the Guidelines and the Debtors' own internal billing procedures. Applicant has endeavored to address the Court's concerns by making the changes discussed herein.

12-12020-mg Doc 5838 Filed 11/18/13 Entered 11/18/13 17:32:44 Main Document Pg 12 of 25

invoices for a given matter are grouped together, rather than being dispersed among the various Monthly Fee Applications submissions.<sup>4</sup> Applicant's re-formatted time and expense records organized by billing matter are attached hereto collectively as <u>Exhibit F</u> (the "Supporting Invoices").

- 20. The Retention Order approved the Alternative Billing Arrangement negotiated prepetition between the Debtors and the Applicant, the terms of which were described fully in the Retention Application. The Alternative Billing Arrangement applied to certain litigation and pre-litigation matters in which the Applicant represented the Debtors. The Retention Application disclosed that the Alternative Billing Arrangement extended only through December 31, 2012.
- 21. After substantial discussions, the Debtors and Applicant mutually agreed not to extend further the Alternative Billing Arrangement beyond December 31, 2012, and instead, to bill all matters handled by Applicant on behalf of the Debtors on the hourly-rate terms under which Applicant represented the Debtors on other matters, effective as of January 1, 2013. The Applicant filed the Third Supplemental Declaration to advise the Court, the U.S. Trustee, and other parties in interest of the change in the parties' billing arrangement.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> For example, for each litigation matter Applicant is handling for the Debtors, Applicant has grouped the consolidated May-June 2013 invoice and the consolidated July-August 2013 invoice for that matter together so the Court and the U.S. Trustee can readily review the work performed by Applicant during the Application Period on each specific matter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The decision to convert the Alternative Billing Arrangement Matters to hourly-rate billing was made in recognition that the Debtors' sale of substantially all of their mortgage servicing portfolio in January and February of 2013 would substantially reduce the volume of work that Applicant would be performing for the Debtors on such Alternative Billing Arrangement Matters, as the buyers of the Debtors' mortgage servicing portfolio would be assuming the responsibility post-closing for defending and/or prosecuting the vast majority of such litigation and pre-litigation matters. Given the projected substantial decrease in the Debtors' need for litigation assistance post-closing and the substantial resources that were required to administer the parties' Alternative Billing Arrangement, the Debtors and Applicant mutually agreed that a switch to a straight hourly billing arrangement would be beneficial for all parties involved, including the Debtors and the Debtors' estates.

12-12020-mg Doc 5838 Filed 11/18/13 Entered 11/18/13 17:32:44 Main Document Pg 13 of 25

- 22. As discussed in the Third Supplemental Declaration, the Debtors and Applicant agreed to certain terms regarding the transition of the Alternative Billing Arrangement Matters to hourly-rate billing. Specifically, with respect to any Alternative Billing Arrangement Matter for which Applicant received the initial \$7,300 up-front payment under the Alternative Billing Arrangement from the Debtors prior to December 31, 2012, but did not incur \$7,300 of billable time and expenses on such matter through December 31, 2012, Applicant agreed that the Debtors would not be liable to pay any fees or reimburse any expenses incurred on or after January 1, 2013 unless and until the sum of the total hourly fees and expenses incurred on such matter from the time such matter was opened exceeds \$7,300. The Applicant's request for payment of compensation and reimbursement of expenses made in this Application fully accounts for the billing transition agreement described in the Third Supplemental Declaration.
- 23. There is no agreement or understanding between Applicant and any other person, other than partners of the firm, for the sharing of compensation to be received for services rendered in the Chapter 11 Cases.
- 24. The Monthly Fee Applications submitted by Applicant are subject to a 20% holdback (as Applicant understands is customary in this District) imposed by the Court on the allowance of fees. Applicant respectfully requests, in connection with the relief requested herein, that the Court allow this holdback amount on an interim basis pursuant to sections 330 and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code and authorize and direct the Debtors to pay such amounts.

## DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES AND EXPENSES AND RELIEF REQUESTED

25. In general, Applicant has provided the following services to or on behalf of the Debtors during the course of their Chapter 11 Cases:

- (a) represent the Debtors and/or the investors for which the Debtors provide servicing or sub-servicing services (except for Ally Financial, Inc. and Ally Bank) in existing or future litigation concerning claims related to mortgage loans and related servicing practices brought by borrowers against the Debtors and/or such investors primarily, but not exclusively, within the jurisdictions of Alabama, Florida, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas;
- (b) represent the Debtors and/or the investors for which the Debtors provide servicing or sub-servicing services (except for Ally Financial, Inc. and Ally Bank) in existing or future consumer and class action litigation relating to the Debtors' mortgage servicing operations;
- (c) represent the Debtors in both litigation and pre-litigation matters involving state and federal regulatory inquiries, title insurance, pooling and servicing agreements, loan repurchase demands, servicing matters, and settlement services issues;
- (d) provide litigation defense and corporate advice to the Debtors regarding a variety of "real-estate-owned" (REO) related issues including title resolution, compliance with city and state ordinances, negotiation of fines/penalties, and the proper maintenance of REO properties;
- (e) advise the Debtors regarding the performance and satisfaction of their obligations under and in compliance with (i) the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System Consent Order, dated April 13, 2011, by and among certain of the Debtors, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, among others (the "Consent Order"), (ii) the consent judgment entered April 5, 2012 by the District Court for the District of Columbia, dated February 9, 2012 (the "Consent Judgment"), and (iii) all related agreements with the Debtors;
- (f) advise the Debtors regarding compliance with various federal, state, and local laws, statutes, regulations, orders, and similar restrictions regarding the operation of the Debtors' businesses and the performance of their obligations under their servicing, sub-servicing, and related contracts and agreements;
- (g) counsel and otherwise advise and assist the Debtors in the development, drafting, review, and revision of practices, policies, and procedures relating to the operation of the Debtors' businesses; and
- (h) counsel and otherwise advise and assist the Debtors with regard to research and review projects as needed and directed by the Debtors in furtherance of the Debtors' ongoing business operations.

- 26. To provide an orderly and meaningful summary of the services rendered by Applicant on behalf of the Debtors during the Application Period, Applicant maintained separate internal billing files for the numerous matters it is handling for the Debtors and, in accordance with the Guidelines and its internal billing procedures, has categorized those matters in accordance with the project categories suggested by the U.S. Trustee in the Guidelines.
- 27. The following is a summary of the most significant professional services rendered by Applicant during the Application Period organized by project categories suggested by the U.S. Trustee in the Guidelines:
  - (a) <u>Litigation (Hourly Rate Matters): Fees -- \$250,126.56; Total Hours --</u> 988.30. During the Application Period, Applicant has represented the Debtors and/or the investors for which the Debtors provide servicing or sub-servicing services (except for Ally Financial, Inc. and Ally Bank) in approximately 128 litigation and pre-litigation matters (including those former Alternative Billing Arrangement Matters that converted to hourly rate billing as of January 1, 2013) concerning claims related to mortgage loans and related servicing practices for which Applicant is to be compensated on an hourly rate basis. In these matters, Applicant has performed a broad range of litigation services, including reviewing and responding to complaints and lawsuits, preparing and advocating motions to dismiss and for summary judgment, developing case strategy, engaging in discovery, evaluating the impact of the Debtors' bankruptcy on the various litigation matters, evaluating potential risk and exposure, assessing and pursuing settlement opportunities, and appearing in court to advocate and defend the interests of the Debtors in these matters. During the Application Period, the average amount of billable fees incurred on these matters is approximately \$1,950 per matter, with the maximum amount of billable fees incurred on any one case during the Application Period being Applicant's time records for these hourly-rate litigation matters are included in Exhibit F attached hereto.
  - (b) <u>Business Operations / Compliance: Fees -- \$469,007.10; Total Hours 1,633.70</u>. During the Application Period, Applicant has advised the Debtors on a host of matters, many of which involve confidential or sensitive information, regarding the Debtors' ongoing operation of its residential mortgage servicing business. Applicant has continued to advise the Debtors regarding their compliance obligations under various federal and state laws and regulations, as well as with respect to their obligations under the Consent Order, the Consent Judgment, and related agreements. Applicant has aided the Debtors in the review, revision, and

implementation of policies and procedures intended to assist the Debtors in efficiently performing their duties under the Consent Order, the Consent Judgment, and related agreements, as well as otherwise applicable laws and regulations. Applicant has represented the Debtors' interests with respect to various inquiries, proceedings, and investigations initiated by various federal and state agencies that assert regulatory authority over the Debtors' operations and have communicated regularly representatives of such agencies regarding such matters and the potential resolution of the same. Applicant has advised the Debtors regarding their third-party vendor retention and evaluation processes and the development of procedures for effective communication and coordination with such vendor, and has also assisted the Debtors in the review and revision of the their internal policies and procedures regarding, among other things, default administration, foreclosure practices, and document review and control. The Debtors frequently consult with Applicant regarding various pre-litigation disputes or issues that arise with respect to specific loan files Applicant also routinely advises the Debtors regarding "real estate owned" (REO) matters involving foreclosed properties for which the Debtors have or may have various responsibilities under their servicing agreements. Applicant has also provided the Debtors with on-site legal support to assist the Debtors' legal department with the day-to-day administration and oversight of the Debtors' substantial mortgage servicing litigation caseload. Applicant has also advised the Debtors on compliance and transition issues arising from or relating to the sales of the Debtors' mortgage servicing business which closed during the Application Period. Applicant's time records for these business operations and compliance matters are included in Exhibit F attached hereto.

Fee/Employment Applications: Fees -- \$5,164.30; Total Hours - 13.1. (c) During the Application Period, Applicant prepared and filed the Second Interim Application, prepared for and attended the hearing thereon, and assisted with the preparation and revision of the proposed order approving such application. Applicant's time records for its work on retention and fee application matters are included in Exhibit F. Applicant's fees and expenses relating to this project category represent less than 1.0% of the total fees and expenses requested by Applicant pursuant to this Application. In addition to the foregoing, Applicant responded to limited objections raised by the U.S. Trustee and researched issues relating to such objections, negotiated successfully with the U.S. Trustee to resolve her limited objections to the Second Interim Application, and prepared the Monthly Fee Applications and the exhibits thereto in accordance with the terms of the Guidelines and the Interim Compensation Order. Applicant has written off substantial time entries devoted to the tasks described in the immediately preceding sentence which, pursuant to the Guidelines and the Court's statements at prior hearings in the Chapter 11 Cases, Applicant understands are not compensable within this District.

12-12020-mg Doc 5838 Filed 11/18/13 Entered 11/18/13 17:32:44 Main Document Pg 17 of 25

28. The foregoing descriptions of services rendered by Applicant in specific areas are

not intended to be exhaustive of the scope of Applicant's activities in the Chapter 11 Cases. The

time records attached hereto as Exhibit F present more completely the work performed by

Applicant in each billing category during the Application Period.

**CONCLUSION** 

29. Applicant believes that the services rendered during the Application Period on

behalf of the Debtors were reasonable and necessary within the meaning of Bankruptcy Code

section 330 and that the expenses requested were actual and necessary to the performance of

Applicant's services.

30. Applicant therefore requests an order (i) approving interim compensation in the

amount of \$724,297.96 and interim reimbursement of expenses in the amount of \$71,408.27,6

(ii) directing prompt payment of all compensation requested in connection with the Monthly Fee

Applications, including any hold back amounts, and (iii) granting such other and further relief as

may be just and proper.

Dated: November 15, 2013

/s/ Jay R. Bender

Robert W. Maddox, Esq.

Jay R. Bender, Esq.

BRADLEY ARANT BOULT CUMMINGS LLP

1819 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue North

Birmingham, Alabama 35203

Phone: (205) 521-8000

Fax: (205) 521-8800

Special Litigation and Compliance Counsel

for the Debtors

<sup>6</sup> The rates charged for such expenses are (i) equivalent to what Applicant normally bills to its non-bankruptcy clients and (ii) calculated to compensate Applicant for only its actual costs of the expenses.

14

### **EXHIBIT A**

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP 1819 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue North Birmingham, Alabama 35203 Phone: (205) 521-8000 Fax: (205) 521-8800 Robert W. Maddox, Esq. Jay R. Bender, Esq.

Special Litigation and Compliance Counsel for the Debtors

## UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

	)	
In re:	)	Case No. 12-12020 (MG)
	)	
RESIDENTIAL CAPITAL, LLC, et al.,	)	Chapter 11
	)	
Debtors.	)	Jointly Administered
	)	•

CERTIFICATION UNDER GUIDELINES FOR FEES AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR PROFESSIONALS IN RESPECT OF FOURTH INTERIM APPLICATION OF BRADLEY ARANT BOULT CUMMINGS LLP AS SPECIAL LITIGATION AND COMPLIANCE COUNSEL FOR THE DEBTORS FOR COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES INCURRED FOR THE PERIOD MAY 1, 2013 THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2013

#### I, Jay Bender, hereby certify that:

- 1. I am a partner with the applicant firm, Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP (the "**Firm**"), which serves as special litigation and compliance counsel to Residential Capital, LLC., *et al.*, as debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "**Debtors**").
- 2. This certification is made in respect of the Firm's compliance with the *Amended Guidelines for Fees and Disbursements for Professionals in Southern District of New York Bankruptcy Cases*, General Order M-447, effective as of February 5, 2013 (the "**Local**"

Guidelines"), the United States Trustee Guidelines for Reviewing Applications for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses Filed Under 11 U.S.C. § 330, adopted on January 30, 1996 (the "UST Guidelines") and the Order to Establish Procedures for Interim Monthly Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses of Professionals (the "Interim Compensation Order") [Dkt. No. 172], and collectively with the Local Guidelines and UST Guidelines, the "Guidelines"), in connection with the Firm's fourth application, dated November 15, 2013 (the "Application"), for interim compensation and reimbursement of expenses for the period commencing May 1, 2013, through and including August 31, 2013, in accordance with the Guidelines.

- 3. In respect of Section B.1 of the Local Guidelines, I certify that:
  - (a) I have read the Application;
  - (b) to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief formed after reasonable inquiry, the fees and expenses sought fall within the Guidelines, except as specifically noted in the Application or herein;
  - (c) the fees and disbursements sought are billed at rates and in accordance with practices customarily employed by the Firm and generally accepted by the Firm's clients;
  - (d) in providing the reimbursable services reflected in the Application, the Firm did not make a profit on those services, whether performed by the Firm in-house or through a third party;
  - (e) the Firm's request for reimbursement of expenses seeks reimbursement only of "coach class" airfares; and
  - (f) the Firm's request for reimbursement of expenses for meals is capped at \$20 per person per meal.
- 4. In respect of Section A.2 of the Local Guidelines and as required by the Interim Compensation Order, I certify that the Firm has complied with the provisions requiring it to provide the United States Trustee for the Southern District of New York and the Debtors and

12-12020-mg Doc 5838 Filed 11/18/13 Entered 11/18/13 17:32:44 Main Document

Pg 20 of 25

their attorneys with a statement of the Firm's fees and expenses accrued for the months within

the Application Period. Applicant has provided the Debtors with the Application prior to the

filing of it with the Court.

5. Applicant's time records were prepared contemporaneously with the services

performed and substantially conform to the Guidelines' requirements. To the extent these time

records, or any other aspects of the Application, do not fully comply with the Guidelines'

requirements, Applicant respectfully requests a waiver of such requirements.

6. To protect against the inadvertent over-reporting of billed time, Applicant's

billing system issues an alert if a timekeeper attempts to record more than 18 hours in a given

day. Upon information and belief, no timekeeper of the Applicant has billed in excess of this 18-

hour threshold in any given day during the Application Period.

7. In respect of Section A.3 of the Local Guidelines, I certify that each of the United

States Trustee for the Southern District of New York, the Debtors, counsel for the Debtors, and

counsel for the Creditors' Committee is being provided with a copy of the Application.

Dated: November 15, 2013

/s/ Jay R. Bender

Jay R. Bender, Esq.

**Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP** 

1819 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue North

Birmingham, Alabama 35203

Phone: (205) 521-8000

Fax: (205) 521-8800

Special Litigation and Compliance Counsel

for the Debtors

17

## **EXHIBIT B**

## MONTHLY FEE APPLICATIONS OF BRADLEY ARANT BOULT CUMMINGS LLP ON BEHALF OF THE DEBTORS FOR THE MONTHS OF MAY, JUNE, JULY AND AUGUST 2013

(Excluding Invoices Originally Attached to Monthly Fee Applications)

## **EXHIBIT C**

SUMMARY OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED BY PROJECT CATEGORY BY BRADLEY ARANT BOULT CUMMINGS LLP ON BEHALF OF THE DEBTORS FOR THE PERIOD MAY 1, 2013 THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2013

## **EXHIBIT D**

SUMMARY OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED BY PROFESSIONAL BY BRADLEY ARANT BOULT CUMMINGS LLP ON BEHALF OF THE DEBTORS FOR THE PERIOD MAY 1, 2013 THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2013

## **EXHIBIT E**

SUMMARY OF EXPENSES INCURRED BY BRADLEY ARANT BOULT CUMMINGS LLP ON BEHALF OF THE DEBTORS FOR THE PERIOD MAY 1, 2013 THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2013

## **EXHIBIT F**

## SUPPORTING INVOICES